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Conservation Commission Minutes 08/19/2010

Arlington Conservation Commission
 Minutes
 August 19, 2010

Mr. Stevens called the meeting to order at 7:45 p.m. in the second floor conference room of the Town Hall Annex. Present were Nathaniel Stevens, David White, William O'Rourke, Charles Tirone, Catherine Garnett, and Ezra Benjamin of the Commission. Also in attendance was Brian Thomas, Associate Commission member. Member Ellen Reed was not in attendance. John Waller, Tim Williams, Brian Jones, Adelaide Grady and Jane Howard, Brad Barber and Zhenhong Yu were also present.

7:45 p.m. – Commission Business

Benjamin/Tirone motioned to approve the 8/5 minutes; motion passed unanimously.

Mr. White presented a Guide to Native Plants Materials composed by a collaborative group of Lexington conservation groups. He suggested we endorse this work and send to other Arlington boards for review and use. Benjamin/Tirone motioned to endorse this Guide; motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Thomas informed that board that he will need to resign after the next meeting as he is moving.

The recently declared drought advisory will affect the Riverfront regulation in regards to observations of flow.

The plants are being installed at 70 Bow St as mitigation for previous plant removal.

8pm –Notice of Intent– 30-50 Mill St.

Mr. Williams responded to questions of whether the MS4 is triggered with the drain to Mill Brook. The outlet pipe is privately owned therefore not part of the municipal permit, but it will come under the General permit for stormwater releases.

Mr. Williams will forward the latest responses from the Town of Arlington Engineering Department. Ms. Beckwith asked about water table elevations and the swale elevations.

Mr. Williams reported that the LSPs for both this project and the high school property are currently discussing the design.

Mr. Tirone asked whether the oil from the parking lot is an "illicit discharge" prohibited by the stormwater regulations. He is asking if there should be a water quality inlet prior to entering the forebay of the swale.

The project is currently being reviewed by the Arlington Redevelopment board for an Environmental Design Review.

O'Rourke/Tirone motioned to continue the hearing with the applicant's permission to 9/2 at 8:30pm; motion passed unanimously.

8:30pm – Notice of Intent – 248 Pleasant St, land-based phragmites control

Mr. Stevens recused himself and Mr. Benjamin chaired the meeting.

Mr. Barber and Mr. Yu presented the proposal to treat phragmites at multiple locations. Mr. Yu's property will be replanted with iris, blueberry, arrowhead and other native plants. The size of the area will be at most 100 square feet.

The treatment will be done by ACT, and hand-wicking of glyphosate where its interspersed with other vegetation. The seeds head will be collected where possible and incinerated in the municipal trash.

Ms. Garnet would like to see more detail in the planting plans and detailed photographs taken to record the shorelines prior to the planting plans. Mr. Tirone concurred and requested that Commission site walks take place prior to replanting.

O'Rourke/Garnet motioned to close the hearing; motion passed unanimously.

White/Garnet motioned to approve the project with five conditions (1. multiple photos taken before winter 2010, 2. site walks by board before winter 2010, 3. detailed planting plans due by 3/1/2011, 4. seed heads are to be collected and incinerated, 5. other plant materials should be removed as far away from water as possible); motion passed unanimously.

Documents reviewed: NOI application.

8:40pm – Notice of Intent – 25 Gould, land-based phragmites control

O'Rourke/Garnet motioned to close the hearing; motion passed unanimously.

O'Rourke/Garnet motioned to approve the project with the above five conditions; motion passed unanimously.

Documents reviewed: NOI application.

8:45pm – Notice of Intent – 204-206 Pleasant St, land-based phragmites control

O'Rourke/Benjamin motioned to close the hearing; motion passed unanimously.

O'Rourke/Benjamin motioned to approve the project with the above five conditions; motion passed unanimously.

Documents reviewed: NOI application.

8:50pm – Notice of Intent – 218 Pleasant St, land-based phragmites control

O'Rourke/White motioned to close the hearing; motion passed unanimously.

O'Rourke/White motioned to approve the project with the above five conditions; motion passed unanimously.

Documents reviewed: NOI application.

8:55pm – Notice of Intent – 16 Spy Pond Parkway, land-based phragmites control

Tirone/Benjamin motioned to close the hearing; motion passed unanimously.

Tirone/Benjamin motioned to approve the project with the above five conditions; motion passed unanimously.

Documents reviewed: NOI application.

9pm – Notice of Intent – 54 Spy Pond Parkway, land-based phragmites control

O'Rourke/Garnet motioned to close the hearing; motion passed unanimously.

O'Rourke/Garnet motioned to approve the project with the above five conditions and to coordinate with the planting plan at the adjacent Kelwyn Manor Park; motion passed unanimously.

Documents reviewed: NOI application.

9:05pm – Notice of Intent – 208-210 Pleasant St, land-based phragmites control

O'Rourke/Benjamin motioned to continue this hearing to 9/2 at 8:15pm; motion passed unanimously.

Documents reviewed: NOI application.

9:10pm – Notice of Intent – Elizabeth Island, control of land-based phragmites, continued from 8/5

Mr. Barber presented information on seed viability.

Ms. Beckwith printed for the file the consultation with Audubon in regards to this work.

Tirone/O'Rourke motioned to approve the project on condition that as many seed heads as possible are removed and incinerated, and monitoring for indigo bush is performed; motion passed unanimously.

Documents reviewed: 7/12/10 email from Brian Rehrig in regards to review by Audubon, 8/11/10 email from Ted Elliman and Bernd Blossy regarding phragmites seeds, 8/16/10 email from Gerald Smith regarding inspection of areas by Aquatic Control Tech.

Commission Business (cont.)

Mr. Tirone suggested that Mr. Barber and the Spy Pond Committee apply for an Arlington Land Stewards grant for the cost of the wetland seed mix as is it very costly. Ms. Beckwith will forward an application to Mr. Barber.

Meeting adjourned at 10:15pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Corinna Beckwith
Commission Administrator